## WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Efficiency in Government: Revenue Collects 90 Percent More Tax From Nearly Twice as Many Businesses with Little Increase in Staffing

**OLYMPIA, Wash.,** Feb. 6, 2007 — Here's an example of real government efficiency: The Department of Revenue collects 90 percent more tax revenue than it did 12 years ago, and deals with nearly twice as many businesses, with little increase in staffing.

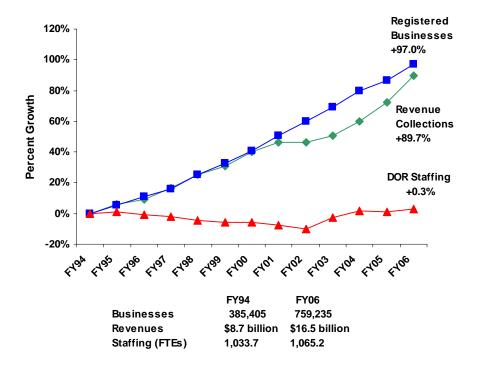
Revenue Director Cindi Holmstrom said technological and organizational efficiencies have helped the Department cope
with a substantial increase in Registered Businesses, Revenue Collections Increase Sharply

Fiscal Years 1994 and 2006.

business activity between

The Department collected \$16.5 billion in Fiscal Year 2006, up 89.7 percent from 1994. The number of registered businesses increased 97 percent during that period, to 759,235, while Department staffing increased 0.3 percent to 1,065.2 employees.

## Registered Businesses, Revenue Collections Increase Sharply Over Past 12 Years While DOR Staffing Remains Flat



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During this time period, the Department's cost of collection dropped from 84 cents per \$100 collected to 67.4 cents.

Holmstrom said Department efforts to encourage businesses to file and pay their taxes electronically has helped reduce overhead while cutting taxpayer error rates, and targeted educational and audit efforts have helped ensure that all taxpayers pay their fair share of taxes.

"We're proud of what we've been able to accomplish, and we will continue to examine ways to further increase our efficiency," Holmstrom said. "Our goal is to make conducting business with the Department as clear and simple as possible."

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